

YEŞİM BEZEN – BIOGRAPHY

Practice Description

Yeşim Bezen is a founding partner of Bezen & Partners.

She has extensive experience of finance, energy and infrastructure work in both Turkey and abroad. She advises banks, finance institutions, international organisations and corporates in transactional as well as litigious finance, energy and infrastructure matters.

Ms. Bezen worked in the asset, structured and project finance department of Clifford Chance LLP in London advising on banking, structured finance and project finance transactions until co-founding Bezen & Partners in 2007. Ms Bezen is involved in major finance, energy and infrastructure work, spanning from renewables to nuclear, from transport to social infrastructure. She is also heavily involved in arbitration and cross-border litigation cases.

Select Arbitration Cases

- Advising and assisting a non-Turkish oil and gas company in respect of its dispute in an ICC arbitration, in particular in relation to the legal framework of the Turkish-Iraqi oil trading relations (the Crescent Petroleum Arbitration Case)
- Advising and assisting a Turkish energy company in respect of its dispute in an ICC arbitration in relation to an EPC contract with an international contracting company, representing the client during the arbitration as lead counsel and assisting the client in the enforcement of an ICC arbitral award before the Turkish courts
- Advising and assisting a U.S. food company on a post-M&A dispute with a Turkish entity in relation to its dispute in the context of an ICC arbitration and assisting the client as co-counsel during the arbitration proceedings
- Advising and assisting Israeli State entities on an investment dispute with the Israeli subsidiary of a Turkish company in ad hoc arbitration proceedings, interim relief proceedings and assisting the client as co-counsel during the ad hoc arbitral proceedings
- Advising and assisting a Turkish ingredient supplier in its dispute with various international sellers of grain products in respect of Gafta and Fosfa contracts and related arbitration proceedings as lead counsel
- Advising and assisting an international originator and manager of infrastructure projects in relation to its ad hoc arbitration and insurance related queries to obtain MIGA coverage for its equity investments in a pipeline of healthcare PPP projects
- Advising and assisting an English Magic Circle firm in respect of its London seated arbitration in relation to Turkish attorney-client privilege rules
- Assisting and assisting a Russian bank in arbitration proceedings under the LCIA rules in relation to a default under a multi-million loan facility and various security agreements
- Advising an English professional footballer in his dispute with his former club and representing such footballer before the arbitral tribunal of the Turkish Football Federation (the Omer Riza Arbitration Case)

- Advising an international insurance company in arbitration proceedings regarding the enforcement of an insurance policy
- Advising an Algerian construction company in relation to its arbitration proceedings against a Turkish construction company
- Advising and assisting a Singaporean renewable and sustainable products company in respect of its arbitration proceedings against a Turkish counterparty active in the cement industry

Select Publications

- **“Navigating the New Global Order: Legal Dynamics in Banking, Finance and Capital Markets Across the CEE Region”**, *CEE Finance & Capital Markets - Freshfields*, 2024/2025
- **“Privatisation of Highways and Bridges”**, *Legal Industry Reviews*, Volume 5, 1st Edition, March 2024, pp. 36-37
- **“The Regulation on Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Management”**, *Legal Industry Reviews*, 4th Edition, December 2023, pp. 60-61
- **“Hydrogen Production and its Use in Electricity Generation”**, *Legal Industry Reviews*, 3rd Edition, August 2023, pp. 42-43
- **“Electricity Storage in Türkiye”**, *Legal Industry Reviews*, 2nd Edition, April 2023, pp. 42-43
- **“Recent Regulatory Changes Regarding Unlicensed Electricity Generation in Türkiye”**, *Legal Industry Reviews*, 1st Edition, November 2022, pp. 36-37
- **“The Draft Communiqué on Crowdfunding”**, *Mondaq*, 15 December 2021
- **“Can the New Law Save Turkish Football Clubs?”**, *Sports Law & Taxation*, 2021
- **“The COVID-19 Pandemic: Its Economic Impact on Sport in Turkey”**, *Sports Law & Taxation*, 2020
- **“Football: Extension of players’ contracts in Turkey due to the COVID-19 pandemic”**, *Sports Law & Taxation*, 2020
- **“Turkey Wealth Fund's Exemptions and Privileges in Connection with the Government's COVID-19 Measures”**, *Mondaq*, 27 April 2020
- **“The Latest Labour and Social Security Law Updates as Part of the Government's COVID-19 Measures”**, *Mondaq*, 23 April 2020
- **“The Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Dividend Distributions of Corporations”**, *Mondaq*, 21 April 2020
- **“The Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Public Procurement Agreements”**, *Mondaq*, 20 April 2020
- **“Amendments Concerning the Scope and Amount of KOSGEB's Financial Support to SMEs as Another COVID—19 Measure”**, *Mondaq*, 20 April 2020

- **“The Latest Developments Concerning the Budget of Local Authorities, Credit Guarantee Institutions and Commercial Receivable Insurances as A Further COVID—19 Measure”**, *Mondaq*, 20 April 2020
- **“Introduction of the Communiqué on The Import of Medical Diagnostic Units as a Further COVID-19 Measure”**, *Mondaq*, 13 April 2020
- **“Sweeping Currency Restrictions”**, *Mondaq*, 5 October 2018
- **“Amendments to the Regulation on the Accounting Practices and Financial Statements of Financial Leasing, Factoring and Financing Companies”**, *Mondaq*, 19 June 2018
- **“New Renewable Energy Resource Areas Tenders to be Held in 2018”**, *Mondaq*, 9 April 2018
- **“Amendments to Decree No. 32 Regarding the Protection of the Value of the Turkish Lira”**, *Mondaq*, 5 February 2018
- **“Product Safety Legislation Overhaul in Turkey”**, *Mondaq*, 14 June 2017
- **“Sukuk in Turkey: Fostering Diversity”**, *Mondaq*, 10 April 2017
- **“Games of Chance Licence Transferred to the Wealth Fund”**, *Mondaq*, 5 April 2017
- **“Prejudicial Discounts in Tender Processes”**, *Mondaq*, 21 February 2017
- **“Turkey’s Renewable Energy Market: Is the Solar Energy Sector at Risk?”**, *Turkish Commercial Law Review*, 2016, 2(1), pp. 85-90
- **“Project Finance in Turkey”**, *The Principles of Project Finance*, 2016, pp. 357-370
- **“Right Ingredients for Turkish PPPs”**, Thomson Reuters, *Project Finance International*, 28 January 2015, pp. 49-52
- **“Procurement mind-set: A handicap to PPPs in Turkey?”**, Euromoney Yearbook, *Project Finance Review 2014/2015*, Chapter 10, pp. 56-62
- **“Modernisation of the Turkish health infrastructure: What went wrong?”**, Euromoney Yearbooks, *Privatisation & Public Private Partnership Review 2013/2014*, pp. 57-61
- **“Turkey: An economy centred on foreign investment”**, *China Law & Practice*, 15 July 2013
- **“Bridging jurisdictions: security arrangements under Turkish law”**, *Law and Financial Markets Review*, July 2013
- **“Renewable Energy in Emerging Markets”**, Euromoney Books, *Investing in Emerging and Frontier Markets*, June 2013, pp. 220-227
- **“Financial Assistance Prohibition in Turkey - a familiar concept in an unfamiliar jurisdiction”**, EBRD Publications, *Law in Transition 2013*, pp. 4-9
- **“PPP and privatisation in Turkey: The silk road to success”**, Euromoney Yearbooks, *Privatisation & Public Private Partnership Review 2012/2013*, pp. 57-61

- **“Transport infrastructure financing in Turkey: Time to get behind the wheel”**, Euromoney Yearbooks, *Transportation Finance Review 2012/2013*
- **“Changes to commercial regulations in Turkey”**, *The Law Society International Division*, 1 August 2011
- **“RES moves to crucial list”**, pfi, *Global Renewables Report 2011*, pp. 30
- **“Financial Leasing in renewable energy projects in Turkey: suitable alternative for financiers?”**, *Law and Financial Markets Review*, January 2011, pp. 33-36
- **“Project finance in Turkey’s energy sector: a Turkish delight for financiers”**, *Law and Financial Markets Review, Practitioners Perspective*, May 2010, pp. 272-275
- **“Turkey’s Energy Market – Opportunities for Private Investors”**, Thomson Reuters, *Project Finance International*, October 2008
- **“The Turkish Financial Leasing Law – is it industry specific?”**, *Law and Financial Markets Review*, May 2008
- **“Turkish Sales Power Up”**, Thomson Reuters, *Project Finance International*, 28 November 2007
- **“Paving the Way for Liberalisation: Turkey’s Draft Petroleum Law”**, *ABA Section of International Law*, Issue 6, pp. 7

Select Conferences and Lectures

- **Speaker**, CEE Finance and Capital Markets Workshop, hosted by Freshfields, 10-11 October 2024, Vienna
- **Speaker**, Istanbul Arbitration Days 2024, organised by ISTAC, 18-20 April 2024, Istanbul
- **Moderator**, Arbitration in Türkiye and the wider Eurasian region, organised by Eurasian Forum, 17 April 2024, Istanbul
- **Speaker**, Istanbul Arbitration Week 2023, organised by ISTAC, 2-6 October 2023, Istanbul
- **Speaker**, Istanbul Arbitration Week 2022, organised by the Energy Disputes Arbitration Centre, 10-14 October 2022, Istanbul
- **Speaker**, 25th Conference of the German International Construction Law Committee, organised by ARGE Baurecht, 11 May 2023, Berlin
- **Speaker**, English Law Day in Istanbul, organised by the Bar Council of England & Wales and the Eurasian CIS Legal Professionals’ Forum, 9 March 2023, Istanbul
- **Speaker**, CEE Finance and Capital Markets Workshops 2022, organised by Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, 13-14 October 2022, Vienna
- **Moderator**, Bonds, Loans & Sukuk Turkey 2021, Global Financial Conferences, 24-25 November 2021, Istanbul
- **Moderator**, Bonds, Loans & Sukuk Turkey 2019, Global Financial Conferences, 13-14 November 2019, Istanbul

- **Speaker**, NPL Europe 2019, SmithNovak, 7-8 March 2019, London
- **Moderator**, Bonds, Loans & Sukuk Turkey 2016, Global Financial Conferences, 16-17 November 2016, Istanbul
- **Speaker**, 4th Investing in Turkey Forum, EEL Events Intelligent Investment in Emerging Markets, 15 April 2016, London
- **Moderator**, 8th Turkey Energy and Infrastructure Finance Conference, Euromoney, 16-17 March 2015, Istanbul
- **Speaker**, “Exportinitiative Erneuerbare Energien” (Export Initiatives for Renewable Energy) organised by the German Ministry for Economics and Energy, October 2014, Berlin
- **Speaker**, 6th Turkey Energy Congress & Exhibition 2014, 16-17 September 2014, Istanbul
- **Speaker**, Central and Eastern Europe Finance Workshop, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, 29 November 2013, Vienna
- **Moderator**, Bonds, Loans & Sukuk Turkey 2013, Global Financial Conferences, 13-14 November 2013, Istanbul
- **Speaker**, Nuclear Energy Development Summit: Turkey, Black Sea and Middle East, 6-7 June 2013, Istanbul
- **Speaker**, Project Bonds for Infrastructure Financing in Turkey – Experience from Canada, EBRD Workshop, 18 March 2013, London
- **Speaker**, Gas to Power Turkey 2013 Conference, Gas to Power Journal, 13-14 March 2013, Istanbul
- **Lecturer**, Project financing of energy projects at the “Energy Law Education Programme” organised by Bahçeşehir University in 2012 and 2013

Education

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe Universität, Political Science – Diplom
- Panthéon Sorbonne (Paris I), Relations Internationales – Maîtrise
- London School of Economics, International Law – Postgraduate Diploma in Law (with thesis)
- College of Law – CPE and LPC

Professional Qualification

Solicitor of England & Wales

Languages

English, French, German and Turkish

Nationalities

British, German and Turkish

Memberships and Listings

Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Listed as arbitrator at the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)